

## ABSTRACT

An optical printhead includes a light source, a light guide, and a light collecting sheet. The light guide includes  
5 a light incident surface facing the light source and a flat light emitting surface extending in a primary scanning direction. The light collecting sheet faces the light emitting surface of the light guide and allows the passage of light emitted from the light emitting surface. The  
10 collecting sheet includes a prism layer formed with a plurality of ridges extending parallel to each other, and a base layer laminated on the prism layer. Diffused light rays emitted from the light emitting surface of the light guide pass through the light collecting sheet to become parallel rays.

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(Fig. 8B)